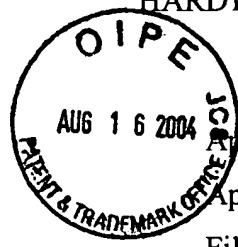


3635

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PATENT

HARD1.003A



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Harvey Dale DeFord et al.
Appl. No. : 09/973,844
Filed : October 9, 2001
For : COMPOSITE BUILDING
MATERIAL
Examiner : Kevin McDermott
Group Art Unit : 3635

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

August 12, 2004

(Date)

Linda H. Liu, Reg. No. 51,240

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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AUG 19 2004

GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on February 12, 2004, please amend the above-captioned application as indicated below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.